

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 KATHMA 02683 271129Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 OMB-01 EB-07 DHA-02 /071 W

-----280334Z 078586 /20

R 271000Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2683

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KATHMANDU 2683

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: SHUM, PFOR, US, NP

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER FIRI ON PRESIDENT'S HUMAN RIGHTS STAND

REF: KATHMANDU 2151

1. WE HAVE LEARNED THAT DURING PRIME MINISTER GIRI'S RECENT PRESS CONFERENCE (REFTEL) NEPALI JOURNALISTS ASKED HIM TO COMMENT ON "A US REPORT THAT THERE WERE NO HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL." THE PRIME MINISTER IS REPORTED TO HAVE REPLIED THAT "WE DO NOT TAKE WHAT PRESIDENT CARTER SAYS AS GOSPEL TRUTH HERE. MR. CARTER IS FREE TO SPEAK HIS MIND. HE INTERPRETS HUMAN RIGHTS ONE WAY, WE INTERPRET IT ANOTHER."

2. IN TWO FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS THE PRIME MINISTER WAS ASKED WHETHER OR NOT AMBASSADOR LAISE HAD MET WITH THE KING DURING HER RECENT VISIT TO NEPAL TO DELIVER A NOTE ON THE KOIRALA CASE. GIRI REPLIED THAT SHE HAD NOT MET HIS MAJESTY AND THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAD NOT EXPRESSED ITS VIEWS IN ANY WAY ON THE ARREST OF B.P. KOIRALA.

3. COMMENT: QUESTION REFLECTS WIDE SPECULATION AMONG PRESS COPIES IN KATHMANDU THAT US STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN NEPAL REFLECTED A NEW CONCERN IN WAKE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 KATHMA 02683 271129Z

KOIRALA ARREST. REPORT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED VARIOUSLY AS "PROTEST" OR DEMARCHE", AND JOURNALISTS SEEM TO HAVE GREAT DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WAS MANDATED BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION PRIOR TO INAUGURATION OF CARTER ADMINISTRATION. WE NOTE THAT QUESTION AND PRIME MINISTER'S REPLY BUT DID APPEAR IN TIMES OF INDIA STORY ON PRESS CONFERENCE MAY 25.

EAVES

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HUMAN RIGHTS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009